

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-6 (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A method of forming a semiconductor device, the method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

forming a layer of insulation material over a semiconductor substrate, the layer of insulation material having a first opening that defines a first side wall and an opposing second side wall;

forming a first layer of conductive material on the layer of insulation material to fill up the first opening;

~~anisotropically~~ etching the first layer of conductive material to form a first conductive spacer that adjoins the first side wall and the second side wall, and a second opening;

forming a first layer of isolation material on the layer of insulation material and the first conductive spacer to fill up the second opening; and

forming a conductive region on the first conductive spacer and the first layer of isolation material, the conductive region making an electrical connection with the first conductive spacer.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7 and further comprising ~~the steps of~~:

~~anisotropically~~ etching the first layer of isolation material to form a first isolation spacer that adjoins the first conductive spacer, and a third opening;

forming a second layer of conductive material on the layer of insulation material to fill up the third opening;

~~anisotropically~~ etching the second layer of conductive material to form a second conductive spacer that adjoins the first isolation spacer, and a fourth opening; and

forming a second layer of isolation material on the layer of insulation material and the first second conductive spacer to fill up the fourth opening,

the conductive region ~~making an electrical connection with~~ contacting the first and second conductive spacers to make an electrical connection.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7 and further comprising ~~the step of~~ planarizing the layer of insulation material, the first conductive spacer, and the first layer of isolation material until the layer of insulation material, the first conductive spacer, and the first layer of isolation material have a substantially planar top surface.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8 and further comprising ~~the step of~~ planarizing the layer of insulation material, the first conductive spacer, ~~and the first layer of isolation material,~~ the second conductive spacer, and the second layer of isolation material until the layer of insulation material, the first conductive spacer, ~~and the first layer of isolation material,~~ the second conductive spacer, and the second layer of isolation material have a substantially planar top surface.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7 wherein ~~the step of~~ forming a conductive region includes ~~the steps of~~:

forming a second layer of conductive material on the layer of insulation material, the first conductive spacer, and the first layer of isolation material;

forming a mask on the second layer of conductive material that exposes regions of the second layer of conductive material; and

etching the exposed regions of the second layer of conductive material.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8 wherein ~~the step of~~ forming a conductive region includes ~~the steps of~~:

forming a third layer of conductive material on the layer of insulation material, the first conductive spacer, the first layer of isolation material, and the second conductive spacer;

forming a mask on the third layer of conductive material that exposes regions of the third layer of conductive material; and

etching the exposed regions of the third layer of conductive material.

13. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the first opening is formed to have a number of loops.

Claims 14-15 (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) A method of forming a semiconductor device on an insulation region, the insulation region having a top surface, the method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

forming a trench in the insulation region, the trench having a side wall surface that extends continuously from the top surface to the bottom surface and exposes only the insulation region, and a bottom surface;

forming a layer of conductive material on the insulation region to fill up the trench; and

etching the layer of conductive material to ~~remove the layer of conductive material from the top surface of the insulation region,~~ and form an opening and a conductive spacer that contacts the side wall surface.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16 and further comprising ~~the step of~~ forming a layer of isolation material on the insulation region and the conductive spacer to fill up the opening.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17 and further comprising ~~the steps of:~~
etching the layer of isolation material to ~~remove the layer of isolation material from the top surface of the insulation region and~~ expose the conductive spacer; and
forming a conductive region on the conductive spacer and the layer of isolation material, the conductive region making an electrical connection with the conductive spacer.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17 and further comprising ~~the steps of:~~
etching the layer of isolation material to form a hole and an isolation spacer that contacts a side wall of the conductive spacer; and
forming a layer of conducting material on the insulation region, the conductive spacer, and the isolation spacer to fill up the hole.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19 and further comprising ~~the steps of:~~
etching the layer of conducting material to remove the layer of conducting material from the top surface of the insulation region, wherein a top surface of the conductive spacer is exposed during an etch; and
forming a conductive region on the conductive spacer, the isolation spacer, and the conducting material in the hole, the conductive region ~~making an electrical connection with~~ contacting the conductive spacer and the conducting material to make an electrical connection.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19 and further comprising ~~the steps of:~~

etching the layer of conducting material to remove the layer of conducting material from the top surface of the insulation region, and form an aperture and a ~~conducting an interior~~ spacer that contacts a side wall of the isolation spacer, the interior spacer being conductive; and

forming a layer of insulation material on the insulation region, the conductive spacer, the isolation spacer, and the ~~conducting interior~~ spacer to fill up the aperture.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21 and further comprising ~~the steps of:~~

etching the layer of insulation material to remove the layer of insulation material from the top surface of the insulation region, wherein a top surface of the conductive spacer and a top surface of the ~~conducting interior~~ spacer are exposed during an etch; and

forming a conductive region on the conductive spacer, the isolation spacer, the ~~conducting interior~~ spacer, and the layer of insulation material in the aperture, the conductive region ~~making an electrical connection with~~ contacting the conductive spacer and the ~~conducting interior~~ spacer to make an electrical connection.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17 and further comprising ~~the steps of:~~

planarizing the insulation region, the conductive spacer, and the layer of isolation material until the ~~layer of insulation material~~ insulation region, the conductive spacer, and the layer of isolation material have a substantially planar top surface; and

forming a conductive region on the conductive spacer and the layer of isolation material, the conductive region ~~making an electrical connection with~~ contacting the conductive spacer to make an electrical connection.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19 and further comprising ~~the steps of:~~
planarizing the insulation region, the conductive spacer, the isolation spacer, and the layer of conducting material until the insulation region, the conductive spacer, the isolation spacer, and the layer of conducting material have a substantially planar top surface; and
forming a conductive region on the conductive spacer, the isolation spacer, and the layer of conducting material, the conductive region ~~making an electrical connection with~~ contacting the conductive spacer and the layer of conducting material to make an electrical connection.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18 wherein the trench is formed to have a number of loops.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18 wherein the opening exposes the bottom surface of the trench.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19 wherein the hole exposes the bottom surface of the trench.